

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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*****State Patrol Sets New Minimum Age Requirement of 19 ½ for Trooper Cadet Positions****

Date: November 7, 2006
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The Washington State Patrol (WSP) will begin recruiting candidates who are 19 ½ years of age and older for trooper cadet positions. The change of the minimum age requirement from 20 ½ to 19 ½ years of age will allow the Patrol to target a group of potential applicants which it has not targeted in the past.

The State Patrol has implemented a comprehensive and targeted marketing and communication strategy to increase public awareness that the State Patrol is hiring troopers and that working for the Patrol is an exciting and honorable career choice. This marketing strategy includes recently updated recruitment bumper stickers with a fresh design which will be displayed on patrol vehicles, new updated recruitment posters, print and media advertisement, wall frame advertising at Qwest field, on-line advertising, and advertising on the tailgates of Metro buses in Snohomish, King, and Pierce Counties.

The State Patrol currently has about 30 vacant trooper positions. Additionally, 20 percent of the Patrol's commissioned work force is eligible to retire in the next five years. In order to meet the current and future hiring needs, the Patrol must hire a minimum of 52 trooper cadets every nine months.

Detail information regarding a trooper career, specialty assignments, pay & benefits, minimum requirements, test dates, e-mail access to a recruiter, and on-line application can be obtained by visiting www.wsp.wa.gov or by calling 1-800-888-8384.

The State Patrol's Human Resource Division will be conducting monthly testing of trooper cadet applicants in Olympia. The following walk-in decentralized testing dates are scheduled for November 2006:

- November 8, 2006, 6:00 p.m., Spokane State Patrol Office
- November 11, 2006, 8:00 a.m., Kennewick WorkSource Office
- November 15, 2006, 4:00 p.m., Central Washington University

Individuals interested in testing at one of the above test sites should bring a completed trooper cadet application to the testing site. Further information regarding decentralized testing can be obtained by calling Trooper Tina Wallman at (509) 370-5416 or by calling 1-800-888-8384.